Indiana Election Commission Minutes July 17, 2018

Members Present: Bryce H. Bennett, Jr., Chairman of the Indiana Election Commission ("Commission"); Michael Claytor, Proxy for S. Anthony Long, Vice Chairman of the Commission; Zachary E. Klutz, member; Karen Celestino-Horseman, Proxy for Member Suzannah Wilson Overholt.

Members Absent: S. Anthony Long, Vice-Chairman of the Commission; Suzannah Wilson Overholt.

Staff Attending: Matthew R. Kochevar, Co-General Counsel of the Indiana Election Division of the Office of the Indiana Secretary of State (Election Division); Dale Simmons, Co-General Counsel of the Election Division.

Others Attending: Mr. William Barrett; Mr. Alan Horton.

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the July 17, 2018 meeting of the Commission to order at 2:00 p.m. EDT in State House Room 125, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

2. Transaction of Commission Business:

The Commission proceeded to transact the business set forth in the Transcript of Proceedings for this meeting prepared by Clarice H. Howard of Connor Reporting ,which is incorporated by reference into these minutes.

The Commission corrects the following scrivener's errors in these documents:

Page 2, line 13, replace "absence" with "absent'.

Page 5, line 15, replace "Abby" with "Abbey'.

Page 6, line 22, replace "394.420" with "IC 3-9-4-20'.

Page 6, line 23, replace "wavier" with "waiver".

Page 9, line 13, replace "s" with "us".

Page 13, line 2, replace "seats" with "seat"

Page 14, line 5, replace "case" with "cases"/

Page 14, line 9, replace "tempora" with "tempore".

Page 15, line 10, replace "louses" with "loses".

Page 17, line 2, replace "tempora" with "tempore".

Page 21, line 5, replace "tempora" with "tempore".

Page 22, line 5, replace "314.304" with "IC 3-13-4-3".

Page 22, line 17, replace "tempora" with "tempore".

Page 22, line 21, replace "precedence" with "precedents".

Page 23, line 17, replace "CAN1" with "CAN-1".

Page 23, line 24, replace "IC3833" with "IC 3-8-8-3".

Page 24, line 2, replace "CAN1" with "CAN-1".

Page 24, line 15, replace "IC364.212" with "IC 3-6-4.2-12".

Page 24, line 15, replace "CAN1" with "CAN-1".

Page 25, line 11, replace "CAN1" with "CAN-1".

Page 28, line 12, replace "Dixon" with "Dickson".

Page 28, line 13, replace "IDX" with "IDP".

Page 28, line 16, replace "Dixon" with "Dickson".

Page 29, line 10, replace "Dixon" with "Dickson".

The Commission adjourned this meeting on July 17, 2018 at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Bradley King

Co-Director

Angela M. Nussmeyer

Co-Director

APPROVED:

Bryce H. Bennett, Jr., Chairman

In the Matter Of:

Indiana Election Commission Committee Meeting

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

July 17, 2018



CONNOR REPORTING

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Transcript of Proceedings July 17, 2018

| 1 | INDIANA ELECTION COMMISSION |
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| 2 | COMMITTEE MEETING |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | Conducted on: July 17, 2018 2:00 P.M. |
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| 9 | |
| 10 | |
| 11 | Conducted at: Indiana State House |
| 12 | 200 West Washington Street Room 125 |
| 13 | Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 |
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| 23 | A Stenographic Record By: |
| 24 | Clarice H. Howard |
| 25 | |
| | |



| 2 | July 17, 2018 | |
|------------------|--|---|
| 1 2 | APPEARANCES | 2 |
| 3 | INDIANA ELECTION COMMISSION: | |
| 4 5 6 7 | <pre>Mr. Bryce Bennett - Chairman Mr. Michael Claytor - Proxy for Vice Chairman Mr. S. Anthony Long Ms. Karen Celestino-Horseman - Proxy Member Suzanne Wilson Overholt Mr. Zachary Klutz - Member</pre> | |
| 8 9 10 | INDIANA ELECTION DIVISION STAFF: Mr. Dale Simmons - Co-Legal Counsel Mr. Matthew Kochevar - Co-Legal Counsel | |
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| | July 17, 2018 | |
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| 1 | CHAIRMAN BENNETT: I'll call the Indiana | 3 |
| 2 | Election Commission public session meeting for July | |
| 3 | 17, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. to order. The following | |
| 4 | members of the Commission are present: Myself, | |
| 5 | Chairman Bryce Bennett, Jr. We have Michael | |
| 6 | Claytor as proxy for Vice Chairman Anthony Long, | |
| 7 | And Karen Celestino-Horseman is proxy for member | |
| 8 | Suzanne Wilson Overholt, and member Zachary Klutz | |
| 9 | is present. | |
| 10 | The Indiana Election Division staff Co-General | |
| 11 | Counsels, Matthew Kochevar and Dale Simmons are | |
| 12 | present. Co-Directors Brad King and Angie | |
| 13 | Nussmeyer are absence today because they are | |
| 14 | attending a conference of the National Association | |
| 15 | of State Election Directors in Philadelphia. Our | |
| 16 | court reporter today is Clarice Howard of Connor | |
| 17 | and Associates. | |
| 18 | And before we begin, I want to remind everyone | |
| 19 | on behalf of the court reporter to identify | |
| 20 | yourself when beginning to speak, to spell your | |
| 21 | name when identifying yourself, please speak | |
| 22 | clearly and do not speak at the same time as | |



others.

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25

of compliance with open door laws and I would ask

The first item on our agenda is documentation

- 4
- 1 Mr. Simmons and Mr. Kochevar to report on that.
- 2 MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman and members of the
- 3 Commission, today's meeting of the Election
- 4 Commission has been noticed in compliance with the
- 5 open door law.
- 6 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Very well. Mr. Kochevar,
- 7 are you in agreement with that?
- 8 MR. KOCHEVAR: I am, yes, sir.
- 9 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Next is the approval of the
- 10 February 23rd Commission minutes, and I would ask
- 11 that Mr. Simmons and Mr. Kochevar present that
- 12 issue.
- 13 MR. SIMMONS: Thank you. Mr. Chairman and
- 14 members of the Commission, Co-Director Brad King
- 15 and Angie Nussmeyer have reviewed the transcript of
- 16 the minutes of the February 23, 2018 Commission
- 17 meeting. They have both signed off on the cover
- 18 sheet and sort of an errata sheet, any corrections
- 19 to the transcript. And those are now ready for
- 20 your adoption.
- 21 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Is there a motion to
- 22 approve the February 23rd minutes as presented?
- MS. HORSEMAN: So move.
- 24 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: We have a motion. Is there
- 25 a second?



- 1 MR. KLUTZ: Second.
- 2 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Motion and a second. Is
- 3 there any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor
- 4 say "aye."
- 5 THE COMMISSION: Aye.
- 6 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: All opposed say "nay." The
- 7 Ayes have it. The motion to approve the minutes is
- 8 adopted.
- 9 We next turn to the ratification of campaign
- 10 finance settlement agreements and ask for a
- 11 presentation by Mr. Simmons and Mr. Kochevar.
- MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman and members of the
- 13 Commission, under the yellow tab, CFA settlements,
- 14 you'll find a list prepared by Election Division
- 15 Campaign Finance staff, Abby Taylor and Michelle
- 16 Thompson. This list is a list of all campaign
- 17 finance settlement agreements that set forth
- 18 settlements between -- or with entities who have
- 19 entered in an agreement to settle by paying
- 20 campaign finance enforcement penalties, and it is
- 21 submitted for your ratification.
- MR. KLUTZ: Mr. Chairman, I'm not sure when
- 23 this list was originally provided to us. I do have
- 24 a conflict with one of these committees listed. So
- 25 I guess we can either -- I can recuse myself from



- 1 the entire list for the vote or we can separate it
- 2 into whatever your desire is.
- 3 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Can you disclose the nature
- 4 of your conflict?
- 5 MR. KLUTZ: Yes. It would be the Taft
- 6 Stettinius & Hollister Better Government Fund.
- 7 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: And the nature of the
- 8 conflict is --
- 9 MR. KLUTZ: I'm currently an attorney with
- 10 that firm.
- 11 MS. HORSEMAN: I'm going to take it you didn't
- 12 advise them on campaign finance.
- 13 MR. KLUTZ: I just now saw this. It's a \$50
- 14 fine and not a \$5,000 fine.
- MR. CLAYTOR: Mr. Chairman, I thought these
- 16 needed to be unanimous. So should we strike that
- 17 one and do the rest of the list? I don't remember
- 18 if --
- 19 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: We'll ask for a legal
- 20 opinion on that; is that right?
- 21 MR. SIMMONS: I'll take a look at that. It's
- 22 394.420. I do not think -- typically those are
- 23 unanimous on campaign finance wavier fines. These
- 24 committees actually pay the full fine, proposed
- 25 fine. I don't see it in there. Matthew, are you



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- 1 seeing anything requiring --
- 2 MR. KOCHEVAR: No.
- 3 MR. SIMMONS: So you could sustain it on a
- 4 vote of three votes.
- 5 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: So you'll recuse yourself
- 6 then.
- 7 MR. KLUTZ: From the entire list.
- 8 MR. CLAYTOR: Mr. Chairman, I moved we approve
- 9 the settlement agreements as set out.
- 10 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: All right. We have a
- 11 motion and a second. Is there any discussion?
- 12 Well, I guess I'm seconding your motion. Any
- 13 discussion?
- 14 And you understand that you're recusing
- 15 yourself from the entire list?
- 16 MR. KLUTZ: Correct.
- 17 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: With that understanding,
- 18 all in favor say "aye."
- 19 THE COMMISSION: Aye.
- 20 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: All opposed same. We have
- 21 a three and one vote with the ayes having it, and
- 22 the campaign finance settlement agreements are
- 23 hereby ratified.
- We now turn to the adoption of campaign
- 25 finance enforcement orders and again ask for a



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- 1 presentation by Mr. Simmons and Mr. Kochevar.
- 2 MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman and members of the
- 3 Commission, Orders No. 2018-5 through 2018-23 have
- 4 been prepared to reflect the action taken by the
- 5 Commission at its February 23, 2018 meeting, which
- 6 we just approved the minutes for. And these orders
- 7 are ready for adoption, and they involve campaign
- 8 finance matters.
- 9 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Thank you. Is there a
- 10 motion to adopt campaign finance orders 2018-5
- 11 through 2018-23 as presented?
- MR. CLAYTOR: So move.
- 13 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: I have a motion. Is there
- 14 a second?
- 15 MR. KLUTZ: Second.
- 16 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: We have a motion and a
- 17 second. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in
- 18 favor say "aye."
- 19 THE COMMISSION: Aye.
- 20 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: All opposed say "nay."
- 21 Ayes have it and the motion to ratify the agreement
- 22 is adopted. Well, I think what we're doing here is
- 23 adopting the campaign finance orders.
- 24 MR. SIMMONS: Right.
- 25 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Motion to adopt campaign



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| 1 | finance orders is approved. | ę |
| 2 | We now turn to the adoption of candidate | |
| 3 | challenge hearing procedures. This Commission has | |
| 4 | historically followed certain procedures to conduct | |
| 5 | candidate challenge hearings. And I move that the | |
| 6 | Commission use the following procedures today. | |
| 7 | After the candidate challenge is called, a | |
| 8 | hearing will begin by recognizing election division | |
| 9 | staff to provide information about the documents | |
| 10 | provided to Commission members, including candidate | |
| 11 | challenge forms and the notice given to the | |
| 12 | candidate and challenger. Unless there is an | |
| 13 | objection, the documents provided s to the | |
| 14 | Commission by the election division will be entered | |
| 15 | into the record of this meeting. | |
| 16 | After the election division staff completes | |
| 17 | its presentation, the challenger will be recognized | |
| 18 | first. The challenger or the challenger's | |
| 19 | representative may present their case for no more | |
| 20 | than ten minutes, unless the Commission votes to | |
| 21 | allow additional time for the presenter. | |
| 22 | Commission members may ask questions during | |
| 23 | the presentation, but the time spent answering | |
| 24 | these questions will not be counted against the | |
| 25 | presenter. The election division may signal the | |



- 1 chair when the presenter's time is up.
- 2 If the presenter offers additional documents
- 3 or other physical evidence not previously received
- 4 by the Commission, then the originals must be
- 5 provided to the election division staff, which is
- 6 Dale, to preserve for the record.
- 7 The candidate or the candidate's authorized
- 8 representative will be recognized following the
- 9 presentation by a challenger. The candidate may
- 10 present their case for no more than ten minutes,
- 11 unless the Commission votes to allow additional
- 12 time for the presenter.
- 13 Following presentation by a challenger, a
- 14 candidate may cross-examine the challenger.
- 15 Following any testimony by the candidate or any
- 16 witness testifying on behalf of the candidate, a
- 17 challenger may cross-examine. The
- 18 cross-examination in all cases is limited to two
- 19 minutes, unless the Commission votes to allow
- 20 additional time. The cross-examination must be
- 21 limited to questions regarding statements made by
- 22 the presenter. Following presentation by the
- 23 candidate the challenger may present a rebuttal of
- 24 no more than two minutes.
- The Commission may dismiss the cause of any



- 1 challenger who has failed to appear or testify
- 2 before the Commission.
- 3 Is there a second to my motion for the
- 4 Commission to adopt these procedures for today's
- 5 candidate challenge hearings?
- 6 MR. KLUTZ: Second.
- 7 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: We have a motion.
- 8 MS. HORSEMAN: You asked for a second.
- 9 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: I did make a motion and you
- 10 seconded it. Thank you. We have a motion and a
- 11 second. Is there any discussion? Hearing none,
- 12 all in favor say "aye."
- 13 THE COMMISSION: Aye.
- 14 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: All opposed say "nay." The
- 15 ayes have it. The motion carries.
- Before the administration of oath, I want to
- 17 disclose what I don't think is a conflict and I
- 18 don't believe this Commission has considered it to
- 19 be a conflict in the past. But I have made a
- 20 campaign donation to the Secretary of State's
- 21 campaign in the past on a few occasions. So I want
- 22 to raise that issue and see if there's an issue
- 23 that would cause a motion for my recusal.
- 24 Hearing none, we will proceed with that
- 25 disclosure. Thank you.



12 Everyone present who plans to testify before 1 2 the Indiana Election Commission regarding any matter today, please stand for the administration 4 of oath. I recognize Dale Simmons to administer the oath. 5 6 (Oath administered.) 7 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: We'll now begin consideration of the candidate challenge. And I 9 remind everyone to identify yourself before you 10 begin -- or when you begin speaking. 11 The hearing on Cause No. 2018-12 in the matter 12 of the challenge to Connie Lawson, Candidate for 13 the Republican Party for Secretary of State is now 14 The election division has provided a copy of 15 the candidate challenge filing form and a copy of the notice given to the parties in this matter. 16 17 At this time I recognize the challenger or a representative of the challenger for presentation. 18 19 MR. HORTON: Alan Horton, spelled A-1-a-n 20 H-o-r-t-o-n, and I'm here for Andy Horning on this 21 particular issue or cause number. So good 2.2 afternoon. 23 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Afternoon. 24 MR. HORTON: So what we're trying to present 25 here is something from a constitutional standpoint

- 1 of Article 6, Section 1, where it talks about the
- 2 eligibility of the seats held by the Secretary of
- 3 State in this case. And it expressly states in
- 4 here about eligibility and has nothing to do
- 5 with -- well, other than the fact that the time
- 6 served places the current officeholder beyond the
- 7 eligibility limits.
- 8 So the only contesting -- we're contesting the
- 9 fact, I guess, that the Secretary of the State
- 10 would no longer be constitutionally eligible for
- 11 this office. So the current office is held to a
- 12 four-year mandatory term, and if the current office
- 13 holder is constitutionally ineligible to complete
- 14 that a term, then is there going to be a precedent
- 15 that we set that every two years we have to appoint
- 16 someone and then we subvert, I guess, the primary
- 17 process? I guess that's the question I'm asking
- 18 today.
- 19 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Thank you. Is there any
- 20 cross-examination?
- MS. HORSEMAN: I have questions, or do we
- 22 wait?
- 23 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Yes, questions,
- 24 cross-examine, either one.
- MS. HORSEMAN: Mr. Horton, are you familiar



- 1 with Article 2, Section 11 of the Indiana
- 2 constitution?
- MR. HORTON: Can you share that with me,
- 4 please?
- 5 MS. HORSEMAN: Sure. It says in all case in
- 6 which it is provided that an office shall not be
- 7 filled by the same person more than a certain
- 8 number of years continuously, an appointment pro
- 9 tempora shall not be reckoned a part of that term.
- 10 So in other words, if you're appointed into
- 11 the office, the time that you serve, however many
- 12 years, and in the case of Ms. Lawson, I quess it
- 13 was close to two and a half, that would not count
- 14 toward the time limits that are imposed by the
- 15 provision of the constitution that you were citing.
- 16 MR. HORTON: But this doesn't speak -- Article
- 17 2, Section 11 does speak to eligibility, doesn't
- 18 it?
- 19 MS. HORSEMAN: No. What eligibility is, and I
- 20 understand it, and please, that's why I would like
- 21 to know, is that eligibility says that you are
- 22 to -- you cannot hold that office more than eight
- 23 years in any period of 12 years.
- MR. HORTON: Twelve, correct.
- MS. HORSEMAN: But what Article 2, Section 11



- 1 appears to me to say is that if you are appointed
- 2 and not elected into the office to fulfill the
- 3 remainder of a term for someone else, you don't
- 4 count those years when you're calculating the
- 5 number of eight years, what constitutes the eight
- 6 years.
- 7 So I'm asking you how do you reconcile the two
- 8 provisions?
- 9 MR. HORTON: So the term pro tempore, of
- 10 course, means temporary. And the term louses
- 11 meaning when appointments are used instead of
- 12 special elections spanned through the years and
- 13 became a technique to leverage incumbency and party
- 14 power.
- MS. HORSEMAN: Pro tempore, I agree with you,
- 16 means temporary. And I went and looked it up in
- 17 Black's Law Dictionary and looked it up in the
- 18 English Oxford Dictionary, the big one. And it
- 19 means for the time or temporarily. But none of
- 20 those definitions attach a time period.
- 21 So there is nothing that's to say it's a
- 22 temporary appointment --
- MR. HORTON: But the eligibility specifically
- 24 says no more than an eight-year timeframe within a
- 25 12-year period. And Ms. Lawson has already, I



- 1 guess, held the office for six years.
- MS. HORSEMAN: Okay. But this says -- Article
- 3 2, Section 11, says that -- you have Article 6,
- 4 Section 1 that says no more than eight years.
- 5 Article 2, Section 11 says however, and you know
- 6 lawyers drafted this and we never leave anything
- 7 just plain like this. However, if you are
- 8 appointed temporarily, the temporary appointment
- 9 does not count toward the eight years. And I guess
- 10 your response to that --
- 11 MR. HORTON: Is the eligibility portion of
- 12 Article 6, Section 1.
- MS. HORSEMAN: Okay.
- MR. HORTON: Strictly the eliqibility because
- 15 the six years places the current officeholder
- 16 beyond -- outside of the realm of where they can
- 17 hold the office constitutionally for more than two
- 18 more years.
- 19 MS. HORSEMAN: So if I'm understanding what
- 20 you're saying is that we should not look at Article
- 21 2, Section 11 because it doesn't apply to this
- 22 situation?
- 23 MR. HORTON: Not as far as eligibility spoken
- 24 to in Article 6, Section 1. This is about term of
- 25 office, is it not? That it shouldn't -- if there's



- 1 no other constraints in the constitution, right,
- 2 then the pro tempora could serve an additional
- 3 eight years in addition to the two-year temporary
- 4 position they've already held, if there's another
- 5 constraint in the constitution.
- 6 But Article 6, Section 1 clearly defines a
- 7 constraint on eligibility for that same timeframe.
- 8 MS. HORSEMAN: I see what you're saying.
- 9 Okay.
- 10 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Let me ask this. In
- 11 Article 2, Section 11 in all cases in which it is
- 12 provided that an office shall not filled by the
- 13 same person more than a certain number of years,
- 14 that time period may -- shall not be reckoned part
- 15 of that term.
- MR. HORTON: And that specifically says filled
- 17 and Article 6, Section 1 specifically speaks to
- 18 eligibility.
- 19 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: But it draws in by
- 20 reference all cases in which a certain number of
- 21 years needs to be reckoned. Do you know what
- 22 reckoned means?
- MR. HORTON: Sure.
- 24 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: What?
- MR. HORTON: I guess served or taken care of.



- 1 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: No. That means --
- 2 according to the dictionary, that means calculated.
- 3 And Article 2 tell us how to count or calculate the
- 4 number of years that imply the eligibility in the
- 5 constitution.
- 6 MR. HORTON: The office being filled that was
- 7 not eligibility for that office in all cases.
- 8 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: It says this is how you
- 9 calculate, this is how you reckon. This is a
- 10 reckoning provision in the Indiana constitution,
- 11 Article 2, Section 11 that tells us how to count
- 12 that time period. And it says you don't count the
- 13 time period that they were pro --
- MR. HORTON: For the time they are to fill the
- 15 office, correct? Doesn't it specifically say to
- 16 fill?
- 17 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: To be filled by the same
- 18 person more than a certain number of years. It's
- 19 the number of years that this Article 2, Section 11
- 20 addresses. It's how you calculate, how you reckon
- 21 the number of years with the fill-in.
- MR. HORTON: Correct. This says to be filled,
- 23 not be filled -- shall not be filled.
- 24 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Okay. Anything else,
- 25 anyone else? Do you have any other evidence or



- 1 testimony to present?
- MR. HORTON: Not at this time.
- 3 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Is there a representative
- 4 of Secretary Lawson present to present today?
- 5 MR. BARRETT: Yes. Chairman Bennett, William
- 6 Barrett for the Secretary.
- 7 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Thank you. You may
- 8 proceed.
- 9 MR. BARRETT: Thank you, sir. Chairman
- 10 Bennett, members of the Commission, counsel, if I
- 11 might approach -- might is the operative word -- I
- 12 have a brief for you and I have some exhibits that
- 13 I'd like to provide. Mr. Horton, we'll get you a
- 14 copy of what we're providing here.
- 15 Let me hand these out. And what I have here
- 16 are documents that, I believe, will not be subject
- 17 to dispute, public record documents. Specifically
- 18 what I have provided so that's there a factual
- 19 record --
- MS. HORSEMAN: Excuse me, can we get copies to
- 21 Mr. Horton?
- MR. BARRETT: Yeah, I'm going to give him a
- 23 copy, ma'am, as soon I -- I didn't realize all the
- 24 staff would be here. As soon as I cite from it,
- 25 I'll hand it to him.



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| | 1 | MS. HORSEMAN: I'll tell you what, why don't | 20 |
| | 2 | you hand him copies of everything and then we'll | |
| | 3 | share here. Matthew and I will share. | |
| | 4 | MR. BARRETT: Great. There you go, Mr. | |
| | 5 | Horton. | |
| | 6 | To lay out the timeline, which seems in the | |
| | 7 | earlier colloquy between the Commission and | |
| | 8 | Mr. Horton, we've put in Secretary Lawson's | |
| | 9 | appointment by Governor Daniels. And not only her | |
| | 10 | oath of office in 2012, but the actual appointment | |
| | 11 | because the actual appointment is important because | |
| | 12 | the language in the appointment recites the | |
| | 13 | statutory basis on which the appointment was made, | |
| | 14 | which gets to the question of whether the | |
| | 15 | appointment was a pro tempore appointment. | |
| | 16 | In addition, we have just a layout of the | |
| | 17 | timeline, provided her oath of office after her | |
| | 18 | election in 2014, and the documents from the state | |
| | 19 | convention in 2018 that put her back on the ballot | |
| | 20 | subject to this challenge today. That's all in Tab | |
| | 21 | 1 of the folder. | |
| | 22 | Tab 2 is an affidavit of the Secretary of | |
| | 23 | State's office, business records, affidavit | |
| | | | |



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part the tab, behind Tab 2 and 3. These are legal

attesting to two of the other documents that are

- 1 research materials relied on by the Secretary of
- 2 State's office that we received pursuant to what
- 3 you'll see in Tab 4, which is an APRA request,
- 4 Access to Public Records Act request and the
- 5 response from the Secretary of State's office.
- 6 Again, as I said, I wanted to lay out the
- 7 timeline. And so as to the law governing that
- 8 timeline, there's been discussion of two relevant
- 9 constitutional provisions, Article 6, Section 1 and
- 10 Article 2, Section 11.
- It is well settled, going back to 1860, by the
- 12 Supreme Court, that the two have to be read
- 13 together. That as has been questioned from the
- 14 Commission today, that the time spent during a pro
- 15 tempore appointment does not count towards the
- 16 eight-year term limitation created by Article 6,
- 17 Section 1, Section 2 -- Section 1, sorry, excuse
- 18 me.
- There is an unerring line of cases, and I've
- 20 cited a number of them starting in 1860 going
- 21 through the 1940's, all of which reach the same
- 22 conclusion which as you asked, that those are to be
- 23 read together and the pro temp time doesn't count.
- 24 So that raises the question of whether this
- 25 was a pro tempora appointment. And that brings us



22 to the third relevant provision of the constitution 1 2 which is Article 5, Section 18. That's the section 3 that gives the governor the authority to fill 4 vacancies. And by its terms, Article 5, Section 18 5 limits a governor's authority to filling a vacancy for a state office -- state office being deemed to 6 7 be a statewide office as that phrase is used -- to the balance of the unexpired term. The phrase used 9 by the founders, by the drafters, is until the 10 successor is elected and qualified. 11 Pursuant to Article 5, Section 18, the General 12 Assembly adopted 314.304 which is the code that 13 Governor Daniels cited in his appointment letter, 14 which also repeats that the scope of his authority, 15 any governor's authority, the duration of it is only to filled the unexpired team. This fits the 16 17 dictionary definition of pro tempora which is 18 temporary as has been discussed. 19 So in a nutshell, those three constitutional 20 provisions have to be read together. 21 precedence of the Supreme Court going back since 22 living memory of the delegates who drafted the 23 language in 1850, '51, has been that they are to be



24

25

drafted together and that the time spent during a

pro temp appointment does not count towards the

- 1 eight-year limitation.
- We've discussed all of these points further in
- 3 our brief. And we have also pointed out the
- 4 statutory defects in the challenger's petition.
- 5 It's not notarized as the form calls for. It
- 6 contains a jurat that hasn't been completed. We
- 7 don't seek dismissal because of that. We do think
- 8 it does go to the weight that's to be afforded to
- 9 any statements that were made because they weren't
- 10 properly sworn.
- 11 As I said, we've outlined that further in our
- 12 brief. If you have questions, I'll be happy to
- 13 entertain them.
- MR. CLAYTOR: Mr. Chairman, may I ask?
- 15 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Yes.
- MR. CLAYTOR: You've mentioned what you
- 17 believe to be a statutory defect in the CAN1 by the
- 18 petitioner. If a state agency puts a requirement
- 19 on a form and that requirement is not part of state
- 20 law, constitution, rule or any other matter, how is
- 21 that legally required?
- MR. BARRETT: The statute under which the
- 23 election division created that form or the statute
- 24 that's being implemented, IC3833, says that the
- 25 candidate challenge is to contain a sworn



- 1 statement.
- Now, the CAN1 form as prepared by the election
- 3 division contains two things. It contains, for
- 4 those of us who are lawyers, a Rule 11 statement, I
- 5 swear and affirm under the penalties of perjury
- 6 that the foregoing statements are true. And the
- 7 signature line appears below that and the
- 8 challenger signs that.
- 9 Now, it could be argued that that is
- 10 statutorily sufficient. But the other relevant
- 11 statute -- I don't remember the cite off the top of
- 12 my head -- is the statute that says the election
- 13 division is charged with the preparation of uniform
- 14 forms to be used throughout elections in this
- 15 state, IC364.212, subpart 8. This CAN1 is one of
- 16 those forms.
- 17 And the administrative law of Indiana says
- 18 that the interpretation of the agency charged with
- 19 the administration of the statute -- of that
- 20 statute is entitled to deference. Well, the
- 21 election division has interpreted that statute by
- 22 including a jurat for a notary on there.
- 23 So to answer your question, I don't know what
- 24 would happen if an agency prepared something on a
- 25 form that had no basis in the law, because this



- 1 form has a sound basis in the law.
- MR. CLAYTOR: Well, I'll understand we're not
- 3 under Trial Rule 11B, but I found nothing in the
- 4 law that would allow the election commission,
- 5 unless that statute specifically says that it has
- 6 to be subscribed or sworn before an office, as to
- 7 how the election commission or the election
- 8 division, by creating the form, could create
- 9 requirements of the law.
- I understand your point. I disagree with it.
- 11 I do not believe that the CAN1 is defective.
- MR. BARRETT: And we aren't seeking dismissing
- 13 to be clear. So I don't know that the point has to
- 14 be ultimately resolved.
- 15 MR. CLAYTOR: Well, the point is very well
- 16 clear in your brief.
- 17 MR. BARRETT: Thank you. I do think the
- 18 limitation on Trial Rule 11B is within court
- 19 proceedings, whether those are statutory court
- 20 proceedings or otherwise.
- 21 MR. CLAYTOR: Absolutely.
- MR. BARRETT: Because we're out of court, the
- 23 ambiguity in the case law for a long time regarding
- 24 what constitutes "a sworn statement" given that
- ambiguity, excuse me, prudence would dictate the



- 1 extra steps, perhaps the belt and suspenders in the
- 2 Commissioner's view the election division has
- 3 taken.
- 4 MR. CLAYTOR: Okay. I defied myself to find a
- 5 case that defined sworn statement in a way that it
- 6 required anything more, even though not under
- 7 trial, that it required anything more than what an
- 8 11 statement would make. I just -- I would rather
- 9 not go on the record to be thinking that the
- 10 Commission should necessarily agree with that
- 11 point. So I just wanted to bring up my point.
- 12 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Anything further?
- 13 MS. HORSEMAN: So Mr. Horton -- you take a
- 14 contrary position to Mr. Horton in that Mr. Horton
- 15 says that Article 2, Section 11 is -- only applies
- 16 to those instances where an office is filled and
- 17 does not apply to the criteria for eligibility and
- 18 you disagree with that, correct?
- 19 MR. BARRETT: I do, yes.
- 20 MS. HORSEMAN: All right. And so tell me
- 21 why -- could you tell us why you think the two need
- 22 to be read together, again, I'm sorry?
- 23 MR. BARRETT: Sure. The Carson case decided
- 24 by the Indiana Supreme Court in 1860 on the same
- 25 day as it decided two other cases, makes clear,



| 1 | says unambiguously that the provisions are to be |
|----|---|
| 2 | construed together, because otherwise 6, 1 on its |
| 3 | face would appear to control any term, because it |
| 4 | is measured in years. It doesn't say eligible for |
| 5 | election for office. It's measured in years. |
| 6 | And so to avoid that, and this is the Supreme |
| 7 | Court speaking about the drafters' intent, because |
| 8 | it was not their intent to let Article 6, Section 1 |
| 9 | control, they put in Article 2, Section 11 |
| 10 | precisely to avoid this issue. |
| 11 | There's no ambiguity in what the court ruled |
| 12 | back in 1860. And I point out that it's not |
| 13 | happenstance that they ruled on three cases in the |
| 14 | same day. If you think about 1860, it was nine |
| 15 | years after the promulgation of the constitution. |

- 16 Terms had started to run out and people who wanted
- 17 to stay in office had litigated their right to try
- 18 to stay in office. And the Supreme Court clearly
- 19 stated you have to read them together.
- 20 And that comports with the overall rules of
- 21 statutory construction, as you know, requires
- 22 bodies to construe documents as a whole and not
- 23 read things in isolation.
- MS. HORSEMAN: And the cases that have been
- decided to date, though, none of them have involved



- 1 a statewide office, correct?
- 2 MR. BARRETT: That's correct.
- MS. HORSEMAN: And so is there any distinction
- 4 to be made between a statewide office and a local
- 5 or county office?
- 6 MR. BARRETT: No, no, because the language of
- 7 limitation in Article 6, for state offices in
- 8 Section 1 and county offices in a subsequent
- 9 section, mirrors one another.
- 10 MS. HORSEMAN: Okay.
- MR. CLAYTOR: To sort of follow up on that,
- 12 how did you feel about Judge Dixon's concurring
- 13 opinion in White versus IDX and Parker?
- 14 MR. BARRETT: I'm not familiar with
- 15 it, sir.
- 16 MR. CLAYTOR: Okay. That's Justice Dixon. It
- 17 was a concurring opinion, not a majority opinion.
- 18 It said that the only requirement for those offices
- 19 is that section of the constitution, and that is
- 20 how he would have ruled in the White case.
- 21 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Anything else?
- 22 MS. HORSEMAN: I also wanted to add here that
- 23 I agree with my colleaque that I think that there's
- 24 a -- they swear and affirm under penalties of
- 25 perjury certainly goes in line what was intended by



- 1 this. But I would like to suggest that the
- 2 election division look at this form to make sure
- 3 that we don't run into this. You've gratuitously
- 4 not made it an issue here today. But for the
- 5 future of this form use, it may be something you
- 6 guys want to consider in looking at.
- 7 MR. BARRETT: I do have one last point that
- 8 has sort of come out of all of this, if I might,
- 9 Mr. Chair. And that is even were the Commission
- 10 inclined to accept Justice Dixon's view and it only
- 11 being a concurring opinion against the weight of
- 12 other authority, that still raises the question of
- 13 why we're here today, because Article 6, Section 1
- 14 speaks in terms of years.
- 15 I shouldn't use the words terms. Article 6,
- 16 Section 1 talks about years. It doesn't talk about
- 17 terms of office. It says eight years out of 12.
- 18 And the Carson case says very eloquently that under
- 19 our constitution the eligibility refers not just to
- 20 seeking office, but to the holding of office.
- There's no dispute that Secretary Lawson has
- 22 not, as we sit here today, served for eight years
- 23 and that in November of this year, she will not
- 24 have served eight years. Therefore, there is
- 25 nothing under Article 6, Section 1 that the



- 1 Commission can do today.
- 2 If you said and it became the law, that the
- 3 two are to be read separately and eight years
- 4 starts and stops with no ambiguity, she would
- 5 become ineligible on March 16th of 2020. That's no
- 6 different that a 69-year-old judge on the Court of
- 7 Appeals or justice on the Supreme Court being
- 8 retained for a ten-year period and becoming
- 9 ineligible on his or her 75th birthday.
- 10 The fact that there might be a date at which
- 11 alleged ineligibility will arise at some time in
- 12 the future says nothing about priority of staying
- on the ballot today, two very separate issues.
- MS. HORSEMAN: My head spins thinking about
- 15 how that process would work.
- 16 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Any other questions or
- 17 examination? Any other presentation from the
- 18 challenger?
- 19 MR. HORTON: I'd just like to bring up -- I
- 20 mean this in my opinion is a dangerous precedent
- 21 that we're beginning to set where we only appoint
- 22 individuals and they get to run their terms as
- 23 elected because we are construing this pro temp
- 24 temporary thing as a means to skirt the
- 25 constitution, it appears to me.



31 1 That's how it appears to me, a concerned 2 citizen, about term limits on offices held. 3 MS. HORSEMAN: But I think the argument that 4 Mr. Barrett presented was that it actually -- the 5 two are intended to work together. So they are a part of the constitution and you have to read them 6 together. 8 MR. HORTON: I understand that. One speaks to 9 filled office and one speaks to eligibility. 10 MS. HORSEMAN: But in filling the office, I 11 think that's just a term. Filling office can be 12 done by election. It can be done by appointment. That's why it doesn't say one or the other. 13 14 why it uses the word. And to be eligible to run, 15 to be elected by the voters is what Article 6, 16 Section 1 addresses. 17 MR. HORTON: Understood. But we agree that 18 Ms. Lawson has not gone beyond her eight years as 19 laid out in Article 6, Section 1. There's no 20 contention there. But the point is that, as the 21 esteemed gentleman has already pointed out, her 22 term of office potentially is up in 2020. MS. HORSEMAN: But he's also pointed out that 23 24 this doesn't say that you have to serve the full term to which you are elected. If you went -- what 25



- 1 he was saying is an alternative argument. He was
- 2 saying even if you went with what you were saying,
- 3 she would not have filled eight years by the time
- 4 the election is held.
- 5 MR. HORTON: But her eligibility runs out in
- 6 the middle of her next term.
- 7 MS. HORSEMAN: No, the eligibility --
- 8 MR. HORTON: It says eight years in 12.
- 9 MS. HORSEMAN: Right. And she's still
- 10 eligible. She hasn't gotten eight years. That's
- 11 what he's saying.
- MR. HORTON: Correct. But pursuant to one
- 13 other article, which one was it -- excuse me, I
- 14 lost track here. Article 2, Section 11 speaks to
- 15 being filled. It says here even that the named
- 16 person more than a certain number of years
- 17 continuously.
- 18 So if you look at Article 6, Section 1, Ms.
- 19 Lawson can serve no more -- according to this
- 20 Article 2, Section 11, can serve no more than eight
- 21 years.
- MS. HORSEMAN: No, it's not saying that.
- MR. HORTON: It says it right here.
- MS. HORSEMAN: It's saying that in an office
- 25 where there is a term limitation --



- 1 MR. HORTON: Shall be filled by the same
- 2 person more than a certain number of years.
- 3 MS. HORSEMAN: It's saying that when you have
- 4 a provision that says an office cannot be held by a
- 5 person more than a certain number of years, then it
- 6 shall be -- in calculating that number that they
- 7 hold the office, you shall not include the period
- 8 of their appointment.
- 9 MR. HORTON: Okay. So then her term has to
- 10 end in 2020, then, according to Article 6, Section
- 11 1.
- 12 MS. HORSEMAN: No. Okay. I appreciate the
- 13 fact -- I see what you're arguing, yes.
- 14 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Anything further before we
- 15 ask for a motion? Hearing none, is there a motion?
- MR. CLAYTOR: Mr. Chairman, in light of
- 17 Article 2, Section 11 of the Indiana constitution I
- 18 would move that we find in favor of the respondent
- 19 and dismiss the candidate filing challenge.
- 20 MR. KLUTZ: Second.
- 21 CHAIRMAN BENNETT: So I understand the motion
- 22 it's on the merits, you're not saying it should be
- 23 dismissed; you're saying the motion should be
- 24 denied?
- MR. CLAYTOR: Correct.



| | · | 201 |
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| 1 | CHAIRMAN BENNETT: We have a motion and a | 34 |
| 2 | second. Is there any further discussion? Hearing | |
| 3 | none, all in favor say "aye." | |
| 4 | THE COMMISSION: Aye. | |
| 5 | CHAIRMAN BENNETT: All opposed say "nay." The | |
| 6 | ayes have. The motion carries. The challenge is | |
| 7 | denied. Thank you all for your presentation and | |
| 8 | patience for the proceedings here today. | |
| 9 | MS. HORSEMAN: And thank you for coming, Mr. | |
| 10 | Morton, in challenging the election of a Secretary | |
| 11 | of State. | |
| 12 | CHAIRMAN BENNETT: The Indiana Election | |
| 13 | Commission has finished its business for today. Is | |
| 14 | there a motion of the Indiana Election Commission | |
| 15 | to adjourn? | |
| 16 | MR. CLAYTOR: So move. | |
| 17 | CHAIRMAN BENNETT: Those in favor say "aye." | |
| 18 | THE COMMISSION: Aye. | |
| 19 | CHAIRMAN BENNETT: All opposed say "nay." The | |
| 20 | ayes have it, and the meeting is adjourned. | |
| 21 | | |
| 22 | (Time noted 2:35 p.m.) | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | | |
| 25 | | |



| 1 | STATE OF INDIANA) |
|----|--|
| 2 | COUNTY OF MARION) |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | I, CLARICE H. HOWARD, CCR-KY, Notary Public, do |
| 6 | hereby certify that foregoing hearing was taken on |
| 7 | behalf of the Indiana Election Commission at the Indiana |
| 8 | State House, 200 West Washington Street, Room 125, |
| 9 | Indianapolis, Indiana, on July 17, 2018, pursuant to the |
| 10 | applicable rules; |
| 11 | That said hearing was taken down by me in |
| 12 | stenograph notes and afterwards reduced to typewriting |
| 13 | under my direction and that the typewritten transcript |
| 14 | is a true record of the testimony given by the said |
| 15 | participants; |
| 16 | That the parties were represented by their |
| 17 | counsel as aforementioned. |
| 18 | I do further certify that I am a disinterested |
| 19 | person in this cause of action, that I am not a relative |
| 20 | or attorney of either party or otherwise interested in |
| 21 | the event of this action; and that I am not in the |
| 22 | employ of the attorneys for any party. |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |
| 25 | |



| 36 | July 17, 2018 |
|----|--|
| 1 | 36 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand |
| 2 | this 27th day of July, 2018. |
| 3 | Clarice Howard |
| 4 | CLARICE H. HOWARD |
| 5 | Kentucky CCR |
| 6 | |
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